

Appl. No. 09/837,686
Amdt. dated August 18, 2005
Reply to final office action of May 18, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for transferring commands, comprising:
 - an image scanner including a first port and a second port coupled together through a communication bus;
 - ~~a keyboard connected to the image scanner via the image scanner's first port; and~~
 - control logic associated with the communication bus, the control logic is configured to control the passage of data over the communication bus ~~such that data is selectively diverted for use by the image scanner.~~
2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a computer coupled ~~connected to the image scanner via the image scanner's second port, where the communication bus passes commands from the~~ keyboard directly to the computer.
4. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[1]] 56, wherein the control logic is configured to detect the presence of commands from the keyboard.
5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[3]] 4, wherein the control logic routes commands from the keyboard to the computer.
6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising keyboard enable logic associated with the control logic.

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7. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the keyboard enable logic instructs the control logic to route commands from the keyboard to a keyboard/ ~~[[image]]~~ scanner interface.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a power detector coupled to the communication bus, the power detector configured to detect a power signal from a computer.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising power supply logic configured to supply power to the keyboard if the power detector fails to detect the power signal from the computer.

10. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, further comprising wherein the a keyboard/ ~~[[image]]~~ scanner interface is configured to receive keyboard commands from the control logic and forward the keyboard commands to a processor of the image-scanner.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the keyboard commands correspond to an email address.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the keyboard commands correspond to a facsimile address.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a network interface module coupled to the keyboard/ ~~[[image]]~~ scanner interface, the network interface module configured to connect the image scanner to an external network.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein a document scanned by the ~~image-scanner~~ is electronically mailed over the external network.

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15. (Currently amended) A method for communicating commands from a keyboard to ~~a an image scanner~~, the method comprising:

connecting ~~a an image scanner~~ to a computer over a communication bus in the image scanner;

connecting a keyboard to the image scanner via the communication bus, where the communication bus passes commands from the keyboard directly to the computer; and

~~selectively diverting commands from the communication bus for use by the image scanner~~

wherein the keyboard connects to a first port of the scanner and the computer connects to a second port of the scanner.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising detecting whether a power signal is being transmitted from the computer to the image scanner.



17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising supplying power to the keyboard from the image scanner if the power signal from the computer is not detected.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising detecting, within the image scanner, the presence of commands from the keyboard.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising routing commands from the keyboard to the computer.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising routing commands from the keyboard to the image scanner.

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21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:
receiving keyboard commands from a keyboard/  scanner
interface associated with the communication bus; and
forwarding the keyboard commands to a processor of the image-scanner.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the keyboard commands
correspond to an email address.
23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the keyboard commands
correspond to a facsimile address.
24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
coupling a network interface module to the keyboard/  scanner
interface; and
connecting the image-scanner to an external network.
25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising
electronically mailing a document scanned by the image-scanner over the
external network.
- 26.-37. (Canceled).
38. (New) A system, comprising:
a computer;
a scanner coupled to the computer; and
a keyboard coupled to the scanner,
wherein the scanner is configured to receive keyboard commands from the
keyboard and perform a function based on the keyboard commands
even if the computer is powered off.

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39. (New) The system of claim 38 wherein the scanner comprises a first port and a second port coupled via a communication bus and wherein the keyboard couples to the first port and the computer couples to the second port.

40. (New) The system of claim 38 wherein if the computer not powered off, the computer is able to receive keyboard commands from the keyboard via the scanner even if the scanner is powered off.

41. (New) The system of claim 38 wherein, if both the computer and the scanner are powered on, keyboard commands from the keyboard are directed to the computer via the scanner by default and are selectively diverted for use by the scanner based on a user-activated signal.

42. (New) A method, comprising:
connecting a computer to a scanner;
connecting a keyboard to the scanner; and
performing a function by the scanner based on keyboard commands from the keyboard, even if the computer is powered off.

43. (New) The method of claim 42 further comprising coupling the keyboard to a first port of the scanner and coupling the computer to a second port of the scanner.

44. (New) The method of claim 42 further comprising powering the keyboard by the scanner if the computer is powered off.

45. (New) The method of claim 42 further comprising, if the computer is powered on and the scanner is powered off, transmitting keyboard commands from the keyboard to the computer via the scanner.

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46. (New) The method of claim 42 further comprising, if both the computer and the scanner are powered on, controlling the computer using the keyboard by default and selectively controlling the scanner using the keyboard based on a user-activated signal.

47. (New) A system, comprising:
a computer;
a scanner coupled to the computer; and
a keyboard coupled to the scanner,
wherein the computer receives keyboard commands from the keyboard via the scanner, even if the scanner is powered off.

48. (New) The system of claim 47 wherein the scanner comprises a first port and a second port coupled via a communication bus and wherein the keyboard couples to the first port and the computer couples to the second port.

49. (New) The system of claim 47 wherein, if the computer is powered off and the scanner is powered on, the scanner is able to receive keyboard commands from the keyboard to control a function of the scanner.

50. (New) The system of claim 47 wherein, if both the computer and the scanner are powered on, the computer receives keyboard commands via the scanner by default and the scanner selectively diverts keyboard commands for use by the scanner based on a user-activated signal.

51. (New) A method, comprising:
connecting a computer to a scanner;
connecting a keyboard to the scanner; and
transmitting keyboard commands to the computer via the scanner, even if the scanner is powered off.

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52. (New) The method of claim 51 further comprising, if the scanner is powered on and the computer is powered off, performing a function by the scanner based on keyboard commands from the keyboard.

53. (New) The method of claim 52 further comprising powering the keyboard by the scanner if the computer is powered off.

54. (New) The method of claim 51 further comprising coupling the keyboard to a first port of the scanner and coupling the computer to a second port of the scanner.

55. (New) The method of claim 51 further comprising, if both the computer and the scanner are powered on, directing keyboard commands to the computer by default and selectively directing keyboard commands to the scanner based on a user-activated signal.

56. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a keyboard coupled to the first port.